

Daily Current Affairs

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BIMSTEC Summit In Thailand

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok, Thailand. The theme of the Summit is “**BIMSTEC – Prosperous, Resilient and Open.**” The **Bangkok Vision 2030** will be adopted at the Summit, and the Report of the BIMSTEC Eminent Persons’ Group will also be endorsed to chart the future direction of BIMSTEC.



- BIMSTEC brings together seven countries located in the Bay of Bengal – **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.** The Bay of Bengal is the heart of the Indian Ocean Region. BIMSTEC is the only regional organization, which brings together **five countries from South Asia and two countries from Southeast Asia.**
- **India and Thailand signed six agreements** for cooperation in various fields including **IT, maritime, MSME, handicraft and handloom sectors.** The agreements were exchanged following bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Thai counterpart Paetongtarn Shinawatra in Bangkok this afternoon.



- Both sides reviewed the progress of the entire gamut of bilateral relations and discussed ways to add **greater momentum to the India- Thailand bilateral partnership and exchanged** views on regional and multilateral issues. Prime Minister Modi received a ceremonial guard of honour.



- Mr Modi said that during the talks, both sides emphasized cooperation in the fields of **tourism, culture and education between North-East India and Thailand**. Both leaders also discussed increasing mutual trade, investment and exchange between businesses. Prime Minister Modi pointed out that agreements have also been made for cooperation in MSME, handloom and handicrafts.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was presented with the Holy Scriptures: **“World Ti-pitaka: Sajjhaya Phonetic Edition”** by his Thai counterpart Paetongtarn

Shinawatra at Bangkok today. It was brought out by the Thai government in 2016 to commemorate the **70-year reign of King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX)** and Queen Sirikit. The Holy Scriptures is a compilation of Lord Buddha's teachings with accurate pronunciation of the Pali Tipiṭaka's over nine million syllables. Thai Government has presented it as a "Gift of Peace and Wisdom for All" from the Kingdom of Thailand to more than 30 countries.



Hungary Withdraws From ICC

- Hungary's government has announced its **withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC)**, just before Prime Minister Viktor Orbán received his Israeli counterpart, Benjamin Netanyahu, who faces an ICC arrest warrant.
- Orbán's chief of staff, Gergely Gulyás, posted on Facebook that Hungary will initiate the **withdrawal procedure**. Earlier Orbán had said his country is withdrawing because the ICC has become too politicised, citing its decisions on Israel.



- The withdrawal bill is likely to be approved by Hungary's parliament, which is dominated by Orban's Fidesz party. The ICC has not yet commented on Hungary's announcement. **A state's withdrawal from the court takes effect** only one year after the deposit of the withdrawal letter with the United Nations secretary-general's office. So far, only Burundi and the Philippines have withdrawn from the court.

Tripartite Meeting To Resolve Issues Of Gorkhas

- **Ministry of Home Affairs convened** a meeting with Gorkha representatives to address issues concerning the Gorkha community in New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by the **Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai**.



- During the meeting, the Gorkha delegation, led by Darjeeling MP Raju Bista, highlighted various issues related to Gorkhas and the region and urged an early resolution of the problems.
- Mr. Rai assured them that under the leadership of **Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the all-round development and security** of the region are among the priorities of the Government. He further assured that the Central Government would resolve the issues of Gorkhas, within the constitutional framework in coordination with the Government of West Bengal.
- During the meeting, **various matters were discussed in detail**, and it was made clear that the Central Government is working with the utmost sensitivity to resolve the issues related to Darjeeling, Terai, and Dooars.

Warangal Chapata Chilli

- In a significant development for farmers in Telangana, the **Chapata Chilli, also known as Tomato Chilli**, has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. This milestone is expected to **benefit around 20,000 farmers** in the Warangal region by increasing their income and boosting market demand for this unique chilli variety.



- This chilli variety comes in three distinct variants: **Single Patti, Double Patti, Odalu. Thimmampet Chilli Farmer Producer Company Limited and Sri Konda Laxman Telangana Horticultural University (SKLTGHU)** have received official communication from the GI Registry, Government of India, confirming the recognition of **Warangal Chapata Chilli with a GI tag**. This recognition will help

farmers get premium pricing, prevent unauthorized use of the name, and promote global exports.

Andhra Pradesh's 'Zero Poverty – P4 Policy'

- As part of the ambitious **Swarna Andhra-2047 vision**, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is set to launch its flagship poverty eradication initiative, the **'Zero Poverty – P4 Policy'**, on Ugadi, the Telugu New Year (**March 30, 2025**).
- This program aims to eradicate poverty in the state by 2047 and is one of the key principles under **'Padi Sutralu' (Ten Principles) of Swarna Andhra-2047**. The 'P4' Policy stands for **'Public, Private, People Partnership'**, a unique model that fosters collaboration between the government, private entities, and individuals to eliminate poverty and uplift underprivileged families.



- This initiative aims to create a sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development model. Empowering Families Under the Zero Poverty – P4 Policy, The **'Zero Poverty – P4 Policy'** is focused on empowering families by providing them with:
 - Housing (house sites and construction of homes)
 - Sanitation facilities
 - 100% tap water connections
 - LPG connections
 - Reliable power supply with incentives for rooftop solar installations
 - High-speed Internet access for all households
 - Entrepreneurship opportunities to ensure financial independence

Zero Poverty Through P4 Model

A Vision for a Prosperous Society

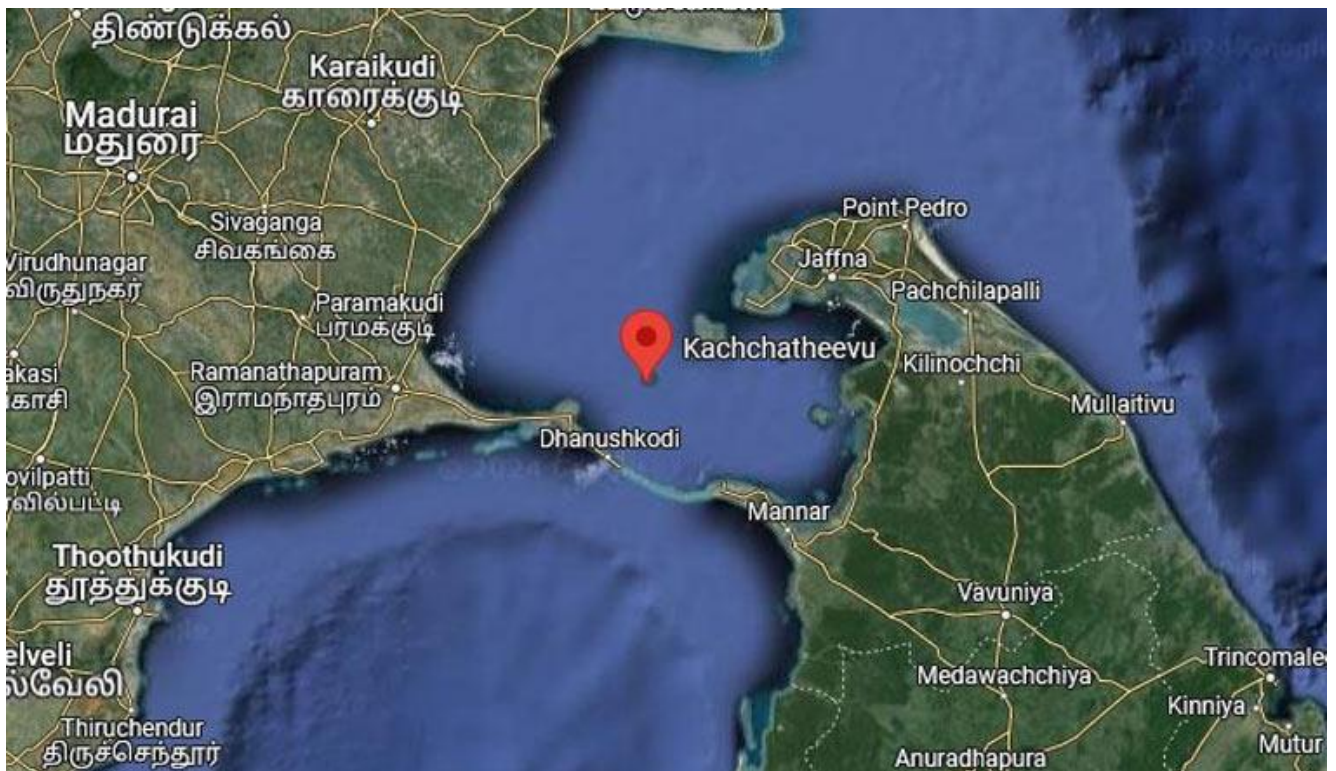
TN Resolution To Reclaim Katchatheevu Island

- Tamil Nadu Assembly has recently passed a resolution urging the Government of India to **reclaim Katchatheevu island from Sri Lanka**. This decision received unanimous support from all political parties present. **Chief Minister MK Stalin has brought into light** the ongoing issues faced by Tamil Nadu fishermen, who frequently encounter **arrests by the Sri Lankan Navy**.



- The resolution reflects political and social concern for the rights of local fishermen and the historical context surrounding Katchatheevu.
- **Katchatheevu is a small island located** in the Palk Strait, positioned between India and Sri Lanka. The island was ceded to Sri Lanka in 1974 under an agreement signed by both nations.

- This transfer has since become a contentious issue, particularly for Tamil Nadu fishermen who often fish in the **waters surrounding the island**. The arrests and confiscations of fishing boats by the Sri Lankan Navy have intensified calls for the island's retrieval.
- **For a long time, fishermen from India and Sri Lanka fished** in each other's waters without any issues. However, when both countries signed agreements in 1974 and 1976, the situation changed.



- **1974 Agreement: It set the maritime boundary in the Palk Strait.** Each country got full control over the waters, islands, and seabed on its side of the boundary. However, both Indian and Sri Lankan vessels were allowed to pass through each other's waters.
- Allowed for Indian Fishermen: They could rest, dry their nets, and visit St. Anthony's festival without a visa.
- Prohibited for Indian Fishermen: They were not allowed to fish in Sri Lanka's waters, including its territorial sea and Exclusive Economic Zone.
- **1976 Agreement: It finalized the maritime boundary between India and Sri Lanka,** without consulting Tamil Nadu's government. It also required both countries to follow international law for navigation in each other's waters.
- What is the Conflict

- **Fish Depletion** – Indian fishermen crossed into Sri Lankan waters because fish populations in India's waters had decreased. They also used modern fishing trolleys that harmed marine life.
- **Arrests and Clashes** – Sri Lanka started protecting its waters strictly, arresting Indian fishermen for trespassing. Sometimes, conflicts turned violent, despite agreements to avoid force.
- **Security Concerns** – In 2009, Sri Lanka increased patrols in the Palk Strait to prevent the return of Tamil insurgents.



- **What is Centre's Position?**
- The Indian government says Katchatheevu was always disputed and was not "ceded" because it was never fully under India's control.
- The agreement states the island is on Sri Lanka's side of the maritime boundary.
- India has raised concerns with Sri Lanka at the highest political levels.
- The case is still pending in the Supreme Court of India.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What Is Primary Purpose Of The 'My- Bharat' Calendar Launched By PM Modi

- A. Promote traditional Indian festivals
- B. Enhance educational curriculum for children
- C. Make children's summer vacation creative
- D. Encourage online learning for kids

ANSWER: C

2. On Which Date Is World Autism Awareness Day Observed In 2025

- A. March 21
- B. April 2
- C. May 5
- D. April 1

ANSWER: B

3. In Which City Is Saudagari Block Print Craft Practised And Awarded A GI Tag

- A. Jaipur
- B. Ahmedabad
- C. Mumbai
- D. Lucknow

ANSWER: B

4. Which Company Successfully Launched Fram2 Mission, Marking The First Human Spaceflight To Orbit The Earth Over Its Poles

- A. NASA
- B. Blue Origin
- C. SpaceX
- D. Roscosmos

ANSWER: C

5. Who Is Poonam Gupta Replacing As Deputy Governor Of RBI

- A. Swaminathan Janakiraman
- B. Michael Patra
- C. M Rajeshwar Rao
- D. Sanjay Malhotra

ANSWER: B

6. Who Has Become First African Woman To Assume The Office Of The Secretary-general Of The Commonwealth Of Nations

- A. Patricia Scotland
- B. Kofi Annan
- C. Shirley Botchwey
- D. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

ANSWER: C

7. Who Has Been Appointed As A Member Of The IMF Managing Director's Advisory Council On Entrepreneurship And Growth

- A. Mukesh Ambani
- B. Ratan Tata
- C. N Chandrasekaran
- D. Gautam Adani

ANSWER: C

8. What Is The Main Purpose Of The 'NITI NCAER States Economic Forum' Portal'

- A. To Track International Economic Trends
- B. To Provide A Platform For Policymakers To Access Consolidated Data
- C. To Regulate State-level Economic Policies
- D. To Serve As A Financial Planning Tool For Businesses

ANSWER: B

9. In Which Region Is The Kumbakonam Betel Leaf Primarily Found

- A. Western Ghats
- B. Nilgiri Hills
- C. Cauvery Delta
- D. Eastern Coastal Plains

ANSWER: C

10. Who Has Been Appointed As The New Chairperson Of The Pension Fund Regulatory And Development Authority

- A. S S Mundra
- B. Sivasubramanian Ramann
- C. Ajay Tyagi
- D. M Rajeshwar Rao

ANSWER: B

11. What Is The Theme For World Autism Awareness Day 2025

- A. Empowering Autistic Voices
- B. Inclusion for All
- C. Advancing Neurodiversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- D. Breaking Barriers for Autism

ANSWER: C

12. Which State Government Launched A Four-day 'School Chale Hum' Campaign

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Gujarat
- C. Punjab
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER:A

13. Which Country Has Launched A New Military Drills Named "Strait Thunder-2025a" In April 2025

- A. Japan
- B. South Korea
- C. China
- D. India

ANSWER: C

14. Which INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT IS The Protection OF Interests IN Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025 ALIGNING WITH

- A. Paris Agreement on Climate Change
- B. Cape Town Convention
- C. Geneva Convention
- D. Kyoto Protocol

ANSWER: B

15. Which Indian State Announced The Renaming Of 15 Places To Reflect Its Cultural Heritage And Public Sentiment

- A. Punjab
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER: D

16. Gabon Which Was Seen In The News, Is Located In Which Region

- A. Africa
- B. Europe
- C. Australia
- D. Asia

ANSWER: A

17. Which Institution Successfully Completed The Training Of The First Batch Of Cyber Commandos In India

- A. IIT Madras
- B. NIT Trichy
- C. IIT Kanpur
- D. IIT Mumbai

ANSWER: A

18. Which Country Recorded The Highest Number Of Child Adoptions In 12 Years During FY 2024-25

- A. China
- B. Brazil
- C. India
- D. South Africa

ANSWER: C

19. In Which Region Of Maharashtra Is The Square Port Shipyard Located

- A. Konkan
- B. Pune
- C. Nagpur
- D. Aurangabad

ANSWER: A

20. From Which Of The Following Nations, Angola Got Its Independence In 1975

- A. Portugal
- B. Great Britain
- C. France
- D. Netherlands

ANSWER: A